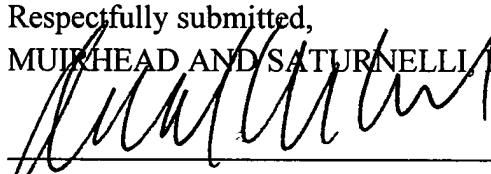


**REMARKS**

This paper is being submitted along with a Response to Restriction Requirement filed herewith. In this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 38-47 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof and amended claims 23-37 to clarify that which Applicants consider to be the presently-claimed invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the claims are fully supported by the originally-filed specification.

Favorable consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 508-898-8603.

Respectfully submitted,  
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